

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

Town of Ponce Inlet
Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2019

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Pursuant to proper notice, Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 4300 South Atlantic Avenue, Ponce Inlet, Florida.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Town Council present:

Mayor Smith, Seat #1

Councilmember Milano, Seat #2

Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3

Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4

Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5

Staff Members Present:

Ms. Cherbano, Human Resources Director/Deputy Clerk

Mr. Disher, Assistant Director of Planning & Development

Chief Fabrizio, Police Chief

Mr. Gunter, Public Works Manager

Ms. Hugler, Administrative Assistant (7:30-10:30)

Ms. Hunt, Administrative Assistant (6:00-7:30)

Mr. Joulani, Director, Planning & Development

Chief Scales, Fire Chief

Atty. Shepard, Town Attorney

Ms. Witt, Town Manager

Ms. Zengotita, Cultural Services Manager

4. **ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Ms. Witt requested item 7D to be moved to 7B, realigned the remaining items in that section, and requested withdrawal of item 13C from the agenda; there were no other changes.

Mayor Smith moved to adopt the agenda as amended; seconded by Councilmember Paritsky. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

5. **PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS:**

A. **Proclamation recognizing July as Recreation and Parks Month - Mayor Smith read the proclamation recognizing July as Recreation and Parks Month and presented it to Ms. Zengotita.**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Councilmember Milano thanked the Cultural Services Board for their professional work on the Oceanview Avenue property item. There were no

46 requested changes; Mayor Smith asked for public comments – hearing none – he closed public
47 comments.

- 48
- 49 **A. Approval of the Town Council regular meeting minutes – May 16, 2019.**
- 50
- 51 **B. Approval of payment of legal bill in the amount of \$5,736.20 (\$26.20 of which**
52 **is related to closing out the Pacetta Lawsuit) – dated June 4, 2019.**
- 53
- 54 **C. Acceptance of the staff report advising of the updated site survey and the**
55 **Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation’s Report regarding the historical**
56 **significance of 46 Oceanview Avenue.**
- 57
- 58 **D. Authorization of the proposed memorandum of understanding for dissolution**
59 **of the southeast regional marine patrol unit interlocal agreement between the**
60 **remaining partners of Port Orange, South Daytona, and Ponce Inlet.**

61

62 Councilmember Paritsky moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Vice-
63 Mayor Hoss. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

64

65 Mayor Smith noted that due to the full agenda this evening, the five-minute limit on public
66 participation will be enforced and asked that speakers organize their thoughts before approaching
67 the podium.

68

69 **7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS ITEMS PREFERRED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE**
70 **MEETING:**

71

72 **A. Consideration of application for appointment to the Planning Board - Ms. Witt**
73 **stated Reggie Bergeron, applicant, has met the criteria to qualify for Board appointment and**
74 **inquired if he was present to address Council. Mr. Bergeron introduced himself, noted he is a**
75 **resident of Las Olas and willing to serve the community. Vice-Mayor Hoss thanked Mr. Bergeron**
76 **for his willingness to serve. Mayor Smith opened public comment - hearing none, he closed public**
77 **comment.**

78

79 Vice-Mayor Hoss moved to appoint Reggie Bergeron to Alternate Seat 2 of the Planning Board,
80 with a term expiration of December 31, 2019; seconded by Councilmember Paritsky. The motion
81 PASSED 5-0, consensus.

82

83 **B. Discussion of potential regulation regarding plastic straws - Ms. Witt invited**
84 **Alan Rosen, Assistant City Manager with the City of Port Orange to speak on this matter. Mr.**
85 **Rosen explained the negative effects single-use plastics have on the marine environment. He**
86 **referenced the report provided to the Port Orange City Council on May 7, 2019, which contained**
87 **statistics, research and other information. He noted that the City of Port Orange passed a resolution**
88 **urging restaurants, residents, and visitors to discontinue use of single-use plastics. He referenced**
89 **Israel and Rwanda, two countries that have strict regulations banning plastics. He added that each**
90 **municipality should determine what level of regulation is best for its community. He continued a**

91 discussion on microplastics and phytoplankton - having negative effects on humans, wildlife and
92 sea life.

93
94 Mayor Smith opened public comment - Robert Bullard - 4802 S. Peninsula Drive, commended the
95 students who brought this issue to the City of Port Orange, an example of bottom-up governance
96 which is needed due to the lack of top-down governance. He commended Council for taking this
97 subject up to consider appropriate steps. Rhonda Glasnak - 4511 South Atlantic Avenue, stated
98 that PIBA met recently and all business owners are consciously aware of the environment, are
99 working together to find a solution, and noted that it takes time and money. Councilmember
100 Perrone noted that this is why the item was put on the agenda for discussion and thanked the
101 businesses for attending and commenting on this issue. Suzanne Scheiber - Dream Green Volusia,
102 thanked Council and Mr. Rosen for considering this issue. She noted her organization's goal to
103 educate the public about the negative effects of single-use plastics and styrofoam.

104
105 Council requested staff draft a resolution for consideration to discourage use of plastic straws and
106 similar items and to encourage businesses and residents to discontinue the use of such items.

107
108 **C. Selection of solid waste provider for the Town, beginning October 1, 2019, and**
109 **review of service delivery options** - Ms. Witt noted that Charlie Latham of Waste Management
110 and Ken DeForest of Waste Pro were present to explain their proposals. She explained that the
111 residential waste collection renewal contract with Waste Management expires this year, with
112 Waste Management having given notice of non-renewal; therefore, the item was put out to bid.
113 She noted that Waste Management and Waste Pro submitted bids; and a review committee
114 examined the proposals for completeness and rated them according to established criteria within
115 the bid package. Mayor Smith asked what the difference is between single-stream and dual-stream.
116 Dr. Vernon Tynes, Director of Marketing, GEL Recycling - stated that there are increased labor
117 costs with dual stream recycling; single-stream is more efficient. He noted positive experiences
118 working with Waste Pro. Robert Bullard, 4802 S. Peninsula Drive, interjected that he was a
119 resource manager of recycling services in the 70's and asked why Manatee and Sarasota Counties
120 have recycling success in excess of 80% and the rest of us are less than 10%. Dr. Tynes stated that
121 he did not have an answer for that; he was simply there to support Waste Pro. Mayor Smith noted
122 there is a \$1.50 difference between one pick-up and two pick-ups per week and commented that
123 the current cost will double with Waste Pro and nearly quadruple with Waste Management.
124 Councilmember Milano recommended that 96-gallon containers be used if they were to select a
125 contractor container option and choose once a week pickup; Councilmember Perrone noted that
126 large cans such as those can damage vehicles when blown or rolled into the roadway. He asked
127 what the residents are supposed to do with their existing cans. Ms. Witt noted the proposed contract
128 includes a provision for Council to request company-provided waste cans but that is not something
129 they must select. The pricing option for them, adjusted for CPI, would be available for the first
130 five years of the contract. She further explained that the contract rate would be fixed for the first
131 two years and then the CPI would kick in annually after that. Mayor Smith noted that many of the
132 items that were once recyclable are no longer desirable due to cross-contamination. Mayor Smith
133 invited Ken DeForest to address Council. Ken DeForest of Waste Pro, provided an overview of
134 the proposal, noted that they are the largest waste hauler in Volusia County, are privately owned
135 and local. He stated their motto "Caring for our Communities" and that Waste Pro is a part of each
136 community. He stated that his company would love to serve the residents of Ponce Inlet and

137 promised to provide top, quality service. Councilmember Perrone asked if there is a limit on
 138 residential bulk-yard waste collection now. Ms. Witt stated yes, 12 cubic yards. Mr. DeForest
 139 explained the process wherein the grapple truck is used and noted that any extra debris beyond the
 140 selected quantity would be documented and ticketed, picked-up and invoiced to the Town. Ms.
 141 Witt confirmed that this is how it is done now. Mr. Gunter noted that heavily-vegetated lots along
 142 S. Peninsula Drive produce large debris piles pretty regularly. Councilmember Perrone expressed
 143 concerns with making all property owners pay for the larger piles of a few. Mr. Gunter added that
 144 there are several subdivisions where the owners pile the debris on one lot, and that is picked-up as
 145 well. Mr. DeForest stated the town provided excellent historical data, and their proposal reflects
 146 variances in amounts of debris and waste collected, and the agency provides tonnage and recycling
 147 data at the end of each month. Ms. Witt explained that Council is asked to pick the options, the
 148 provider, and direct staff to prepare a contract for consideration at a subsequent meeting. Mayor
 149 Smith opened public comment - Maureen McCabe - 4783 Michael Lane, noted that Waste
 150 Management has provided outstanding service and expressed concerns with option 1 and pick-up
 151 of items that are outside of the container. Ms. Witt apologized for the confusion in the wording
 152 and explained that option 1 is the exact level of service that we have now. Mr. DiCarlo - 32
 153 Caribbean Way - asked what the total costs are. Mayor Smith stated Waste Management is \$51.80
 154 for option 1 and Waste Pro is \$26.91. James Utter - 4715 Montrose Avenue, thanked Waste
 155 Management for their excellent level of service, expressed concerns for the employees of Waste
 156 Management, and stated his hopes that the level of service remains high. Charlie Latham, Waste
 157 Management representative - noted that Waste Management has proudly served the Town for more
 158 than 25 years; but is currently operating at a loss. He noted that the higher costs reflect the current
 159 level of service and higher costs of doing business. He stated it has been a pleasure and an honor
 160 to serve Ponce Inlet and expressed Waste Management's desire to continue serving the Town and
 161 its shareholders. Mr. DeForest of Waste Pro stated that he expects there will be hiring opportunity
 162 in his company for those who may be impacted locally from Waste Management, if they are
 163 agreeable to this. Mayor Smith closed public comment.

164

165 Councilmember Paritsky moved to rank Waste Pro as the first-choice provider, based on the
 166 proposal and utilize option 1 for each category, and direct staff to work with Town Attorney and
 167 Waste Pro to create a contract for Council consideration; seconded by Vice-Mayor Hoss.

168

169 Mayor Smith asked if a replacement recycling container would be provided and what happens to
 170 the current containers. This will be finalized in the transition process, though it is possible that the
 171 same containers could be used.

172

173 The motion PASSED 5-0, with the following vote: Councilmember Paritsky - yes; Vice-Mayor
 174 Hoss - yes; Councilmember Milano - yes; Councilmember Perrone - yes; Mayor Smith - yes.

175

176 **D. Discussion regarding illegal fireworks activity in Ponce Inlet** - Councilmember
 177 Paritsky expressed her desire to authorize the Town Manager to request continuous patrol on the
 178 beach during the 4th of July holiday. She reviewed information and statistics regarding the negative
 179 impact fireworks have on wildlife and domestic pets. Councilmember Perrone concurred and
 180 expressed concerns that the County does not already do patrols on "their beach" and asked if there
 181 is a liability to the Town in asking them to do so. Attorney Shepard stated there is no additional
 182 risk or liability. Councilmember Perrone stated they need to add more patrol then. Ms. Witt stated

183 that in speaking with County staff, it was indicated they otherwise would not place any officers in
184 this area but will do so as a “special detail” at a cost of \$40/hour per officer, payable by the Town.
185

186 Council authorized the Town Manager to request two County beach patrol officers to continuously
187 patrol the beach in Ponce Inlet from 9:00 p.m. through 1:00 a.m. on July 4th. If the County is
188 unable to provide the requested officers, then Ponce Inlet PD will provide the continuous patrol.
189

190 **E. Discussion of noise issues** - Councilmember Paritsky reviewed the public
191 comments and discussions held during the past few Council meetings. Based on those discussions,
192 she researched noise monitoring equipment and provided a flyer on the EM2030 Sound Level
193 Monitor, which features an ability for the business to have an app that would allow them to monitor
194 their own sound levels in real time, to assist with their own desires for compliance. She stated that
195 it is not her intention to be heavy-handed; and noted that the Town’s existing equipment is very
196 old. She noted that she has spoken with Chief Fabrizio on this matter. Vice-Mayor Hoss asked if
197 there are funds in the budget to purchase this equipment now. Ms. Witt stated that it depends upon
198 what direction Council wishes to take. Mayor Smith opened public comment - Rhonda Glasnak,
199 4511 S. Atlantic Avenue - stated before Council spends \$10,000 on a piece of equipment, there
200 are only 5 restaurants in this community, there have only been two calls - the restaurants monitor
201 themselves and have the apps at their businesses. The business owners want peace with the
202 residents, as the local community is the bread and butter of their businesses. She asked Council to
203 allow them to self-monitor, to not entertain anonymous callers, and to not spend \$10,000 on
204 equipment. Frank Cipolla, 33 Inlet Harbor Rd. (Jerry’s Tiki Bar), along with (Atty. Tom
205 McFarland) - suggested Council hold a workshop to discuss the noise ordinance and decibel level,
206 noting that 65 dB is very similar to a normal conversation. Mr. Cipolla noted that he is seeking
207 permission to install bamboo between his property line and Las Olas and added that he is willing
208 to work with neighbors and the Town to resolve the matter. Councilmember Paritsky stressed that
209 this is a proactive measure and beneficial to the business owners and the residents; it is a piece of
210 equipment that could monitor day and night, keeping all the data stored. John LaBelle, 33 Calumet
211 Ave - stated that he lives one block from Jerry’s and has no complaints about Jerry’s noise levels.
212 He stated his experiences as a nuclear engineer and explained how sound travels - the further away
213 you are from the sound, the more the sound decreases exponentially. He noted that the residents
214 who are complaining are moving into the situation - and that is their failure to do “due diligence”.
215 He expressed his support of the town’s businesses; stated the fabric of the Town includes the
216 businesses and wants everyone to stop harassing them. He noted that there will be on-going costs
217 with equipment maintenance and suggested that common sense prevail and allow the businesses
218 to thrive in the active, vibrant community. Zack Stoumbos, 4825 S. Atlantic Ave. - noted that he
219 lives four houses from Jerry’s and enjoys having this business in the area but suggested that Frank
220 should not have taken the wall and plants down which eliminated the previous buffer; he felt Frank
221 should now take the steps that will assist with noise reduction from his restaurant. Robert Bullard,
222 4802 S. Peninsula Drive - suggested contacting the manufacturer and do a comparison study on
223 the equipment before purchasing a piece of equipment. Lorne Green (resident) stressed the
224 importance of community enjoyment. Let Jerry’s do his thing and monitor it on the apps instead
225 of spending \$10,000 on a piece of equipment. Mayor Smith noted for the record that Council is
226 not discussing the noise ordinance this evening - merely discussing the possible purchase of new
227 equipment. Brian Smith, 13 Mar Azul (Las Olas) - stated he lives directly behind Jerry’s and stated
228 that purchasing equipment is not necessary; the restaurant owners have been working with the Las

229 Olas property owners and suggested that proposed improvements may resolve the issue. Mayor
230 Smith closed public comment.

231
232 Councilmember Paritsky agreed to work with Chief Fabrizio to facilitate rental of noise
233 monitoring equipment for trial use prior to considering a purchase.

234
235 **8. PUBLIC HEARINGS / QUASI-JUDICIAL:** None.

236
237 **9. PUBLIC HEARINGS / NON-QUASI-JUDICIAL MATTERS:** None.

238
239 **10. CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION:** Mayor Smith opened public participation –

240
241 Rhonda Glasnak, 4518 S. Atlantic Avenue - stated she cleared the pepper trees from their lot on
242 Maura Terrace and attempted to grade the lot and plant grass. She was informed of an ordinance
243 that prohibits the clearing and grading of a lot without the submittal of construction plans. She
244 expressed concerns that the lot is becoming overgrown with weeds and not kept nice for the
245 neighbors. She requested Council consider a revision to the Code to allow this. (Editor's note:
246 No request for information on this had been brought to planning and development and when staff
247 learned of this at this Council meeting, they checked the Code and such a provision already exists
248 which resolves this issue; no revision is needed).

249
250 Jim Utter, 4715 Montrose Avenue - stressed how tight-knit this community is, just based on the
251 previous conversations tonight. He expressed concerns with comments made last month in
252 reference to "trailer trash" and that the owner did not have the opportunity to defend himself. He
253 stated it was derogatory and unnecessary; he stated that there is no place nor shall there ever be, a
254 place in this Chambers for derogatory comments - this community is a residential haven for all
255 walks of life and reminded everyone to think about how we speak to and of one another. Terry
256 Crumley, 84 Inlet Point Blvd., thanked Mr. Utter for his kind words, noting that she and her
257 husband were the ones referred to with that comment. She stated that it is a classic Venture trailer
258 that they are restoring it to its original condition; they have also landscaped the area as requested
259 by the Town. Mayor Smith closed public participation.

260
261 **11. ORDINANCES (FIRST READING) AND RESOLUTIONS:** None.

262
263 **12. OLD BUSINESS:**

264
265 **A. Continued discussion of establishing a public process prior to consideration of**
266 **the disposal of Town-owned real property.** Councilmember Paritsky noted that there are no
267 restrictions in place for disposal of town-owned real estate, referencing the recent attempted sale
268 and citizen feedback regarding the "triangle parcel". She noted the current process is for one
269 council meeting (optional) and a vote by simple majority. She outlined her proposal which includes
270 2 council meetings, a vote by super-majority, notices posted on actual property, water bills,
271 condominiums, and website, and must include a finding that the selected proposal (sale) is in the
272 best interest of the town (best use vs highest bidder). Councilmember Milano noted that if taken
273 into effect, his wish would be to limit every Council forever, from selling any of the currently
274 Town-owned properties. Councilmember Milano stated he is referring to currently-owned

275 properties, that need to be a part of Ponce Inlet forever. Mayor Smith noted that if the Town has
 276 strict policies for disposal, it should have the same type of policies for purchasing; there was some
 277 discussion that apply this to the purchasing side would negatively impact the Town's ability to buy
 278 properties when they become available. Attorney Shepard explained the process for incorporating
 279 the sale of Town owned properties into the Charter. He referenced a *Heritage Properties*
 280 designation, which could create stricter regulations regarding such a sale. He suggested identifying
 281 these Heritage Properties, and by vote of the Council, future properties could be added to that list
 282 on a case-by-case basis. Councilmember Milano noted his support of Heritage Properties
 283 designation and expressed concerns that the sale of any of these properties would change the entire
 284 character of the Town. Councilmember Milano re-stated that he wishes to enact regulations
 285 prohibiting future Councils from being able to sell any of the "Heritage" properties. Attorney
 286 Shepard stated that based on Council comments he could prepare the documents for a Charter
 287 Amendment and stated that Council can then formally identify which properties should be on a
 288 Heritage list versus those that can be placed on a Government/Public list.

289
 290 Council authorized Councilmember Paritsky work with the Town Attorney to draft an ordinance
 291 for a Charter amendment as discussed.

292

293 **13. NEW BUSINESS:**

294

295 **A. Selection of company for Pollard Park playground improvements** - Ms.
 296 Zengotita reviewed the project, noting that they received four cost proposals for playground
 297 equipment and one of them actually came in a little under budget. Mayor Smith opened public
 298 comment - hearing none, he closed public comment.

299
 300 Councilmember Paritsky moved to select ET&T Distributors at a cost of \$118,226.74 to provide
 301 the playground equipment for the Pollard Park improvements project; seconded by Vice-Mayor
 302 Hoss. The motion passed 5-0, by consensus.

303
 304 Mayor Smith announced that Pollard Park will be closed beginning on Monday, June 24th until
 305 construction is complete.

306

307 **B. Discussion of increased staffing for fire department** - Chief Scales stated that he
 308 had been working on a conceptual proposal to provide additional shift staffing to more fully cover
 309 the Town when a transport is in progress and to provide the additional management support that
 310 he needs. Since the Town began participation in the transport program in 2012, he and the town
 311 manager have discussed that at some point they may need to look at an increase in staffing; this is
 312 the first time they have brought this concept forward to the Council though for some initial
 313 discussion. Chief Scales reviewed the current staffing levels of three per shift, which cross-staffs
 314 the engine and ambulance. He reviewed data on the calls for service, noting they now respond to
 315 400-450 per year, and that the majority are medical calls. Chief Scales then reviewed the proposed
 316 options: option 1 - hire three shift commanders (one per shift) or option 2 - hire three
 317 firefighters/paramedics and one Deputy Chief. Chief Scales commended current staff and noted
 318 this proposal is being provided to improve the quality of service provided by the fire department.
 319 Councilmember Perrone asked if this was being proposed because we do not have enough EMTs
 320 in town and how does this help when an ambulance is out of town? Chief Scales stated in part yes,

321 but his priority is to staff the second engine, as there are ambulances available in neighboring
322 cities. Councilmember Perrone stated that it appears there are more staffing abilities with option
323 1; and asked if a shift commander could be groomed to become chief in the event our current chief
324 were to retire. Ms. Witt advised that would be a possibility, depending on the level of experience
325 they brought with them. Vice-Mayor Hoss expressed support for option 1, as presented.
326 Councilmember Paritsky thanked Chief Scales for the presentation and commended him for his
327 work on this matter. She pointed-out that everyone needs to understand that participation in out-
328 of-town transports is not “optional” for us, as we must participate in order to maintain permission
329 from the County to perform our own transport abilities. She confirmed with Chief Scales that based
330 upon the new standards which no longer require the Town to respond to non-emergency calls
331 outside of the Town and the fact that Port Orange has now purchased an ambulance, there could
332 actually be a decrease in transports under these new conditions; which have not been in place long
333 enough to yield the relevant data. Chief Scales also provided information regarding how the units
334 are staffed when our Town units are out-of-town; the County is constantly moving resources
335 around on an as-needed basis closest unit response is Daytona Beach Shores; dispatch is automatic
336 (standard operating procedures). Chief Scales further reviewed the data and proposals and noted
337 that 96% of the time, Ponce Inlet’s own Fire/EMS is available and standing-by for a call.
338 Councilmember Milano noted that of the six cities mentioned in Chief Scales report, Ponce Inlet
339 is the smallest by nearly 56% and this is good for our Town. Mayor Smith commented that he
340 believes option 1 will provide more “bang for your buck”.

341
342 Mayor Smith opened public comment – Jim Hinson, 4745 S. Atlantic Ave. - stated that Ponce Inlet
343 has the best fire department and he has used all their services. He recommended that the cost of
344 business is going up, so the department should be funded accordingly. Zack Stoumbos, 4825 S.
345 Atlantic Ave. - stated that the Town is well-served with its current staffing and should consider
346 tightening its belt. He acknowledged that there may be a time when the department should be
347 expanded, but that time is not now. He recommended increasing the Reserves before adding any
348 additional personnel, adding that Chief Scales is doing a great job. John LaBelle, 33 Calumet -
349 recommended adding positions that will help the line crews and provide the best benefit to the
350 town. Paul Roxenberg, 119 Beach St. - thanked the Chief for the presentation. He noted that Holly
351 Hill has four persons per fire truck and does not transport; S. Daytona has five on duty and dropped
352 out of the transport program; out-of-area service calls mean that there are no fire suppression crews
353 in town during that time; history shows the number of out-of-area service calls have increased. He
354 expressed concerns with not having fire protection; he proposed a 4-crew engine company and 2-
355 person ambulance crew based on the population for a total of 6 personnel on each shift. He noted
356 that 41% of transports are out-of-area and felt that this could affect the ISO ratings. He suggested
357 the town train and promote from within and eliminate the lieutenant position. Mayor Smith noted
358 that if approved, the three new positions would be open to anyone who is qualified. Al DiCostanza,
359 56 Buschman Dr. - has used the town’s EMS services and asked Council to look closely at what
360 the Captains would provide in first responder service, where are our crews transporting now; and
361 wants to ensure that our people always come first. Chief Scales explained how the closest-
362 unit/transport program works and what the functions of a shift commander would be.
363 Councilmember Perrone expressed concerns that the fire truck responds instead of the second
364 ambulance. Chief Scales noted that they could take whichever vehicle suited the call but it would
365 defeat the purpose of adding additional personnel in order to always have someone in town if they
366 performed a second transport themselves. Councilmember Milano asked if the County is working

367 with the fire departments, since only 6 of 16 municipalities participate in this transport program,
368 and asked if the County was possibly taking over county-wide fire protection. Chief Scales stated
369 that discussion of countywide fire protection comes up every few years or so but has never yielded
370 a change to that direction. John Brooks, 4712 Dixie Dr., resident and fire department employee,
371 encouraged Council to recognize the department's deficiencies. He stated that with the 3-person
372 crew, the town is left with minimal or no coverage due to the transport program and the amount of
373 time the crews are out of town has exponentially increased. He felt additional workers, not
374 supervisors, should be hired. He referenced the shift commanders' job description wherein it stated
375 the commander is not to participate in calls, but to supervise. Chief Scales stated that while their
376 primary role would be supervisory, they would be responding to and assisting with calls. He noted
377 that the job description at this point is conceptual for this initial discussion. Councilmember
378 Paritsky asked Mr. Roxenberg about his comments during the April meeting regarding a
379 countywide fire protection service. Mr. Roxenberg stated that the town would have full access to
380 the apparatus and additional staffing, heavy-rescue equipment, etc., if the town wished to contract
381 with the County and that the County would subsequently relocate their equipment for quicker
382 access; he added that mutual aid is currently available but not as quick as it would be under a
383 contractual arrangement. Councilmember Perrone noted that becoming a county-run department
384 may not be a benefit to the town. Mr. Roxenberg explained how his department worked in Loudoun
385 County, VA. He suggested establishing a citizen's public safety committee to investigate and
386 determine what options may be available.

387

388 As they approached 10:00 p.m., Councilmember Paritsky moved to extend the meeting to 10:30
389 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Milano. The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

390

391 Mayor Smith moved to place the funds in the budget as a contingency; Vice-Mayor Hoss seconded
392 the motion.

393

394 Mayor Smith opened public comment – Derek George, been with the fire department for 25 years;
395 encouraged Council to consider adding staff. He noted that there are more than 110 years of
396 experience currently within the 9 shift members, not counting the Chief's. He reviewed medical
397 calls and noted that 2 of the 3 members respond to medical calls and depending on the seriousness
398 of the call all three members may respond. He noted that the population of Ponce Inlet is aging.
399 He stated that he wants the 9 members of the IAFF Union to be involved with decisions being
400 made regarding the department. He noted that the department needs firefighter/paramedics - not
401 more supervision. He added that there are enough supervisors and they need line people. Mayor
402 Smith closed public comment.

403

404 Mayor Smith noted that firefighters live in a unique environment, which may lead to issues within
405 the 3-person unit and expressed concerns with adding more line staff without enhancing
406 supervision. He praised the staff's work performance but expressed concern with them not getting
407 along and the Lieutenants don't seem to be managing that. Mr. George responded that the Mayor
408 has commented publicly about how "lazy" the firefighters are and that information is based on
409 false information and rumors. He stated the Mayor has never once sat down with the staff to discuss
410 any issues or concerns though he has repeatedly invited him to do so. He added that their
411 evaluations reflect the level of service performed; he blamed the current staff issues on the previous
412 hostile work environment created by the Chief. He stated his disappointment with not being able

413 to meet with any of the Councilmembers, adding that the community constantly praises this
 414 department. Mayor Smith stated he is concerned with the members not getting along with one
 415 another. Mr. George invited the Mayor to lunch to discuss these matters in further detail; and
 416 expressed his desires to improve the relationship between the crews and the Town. Mayor Smith
 417 again praised the crews for their work outside of the station. Mr. George stated it is no secret that
 418 there has been damage and his offer is to any member of Council to repair the damage. Mayor
 419 Smith closed public comment.

420

421 Councilmember Paritsky suggested putting this matter aside for now and focus on building back
 422 the Reserve funds. Mayor Smith stated if we have the money in the budget, we can decide later in
 423 next year, rather than trying to do something after the budget is approved without having the
 424 money. Councilmember Paritsky noted that there has been much discussion on this issue and
 425 expressed her desire to ensure this matter is handled properly and not rushed.

426

427 The motion PASSED 5-0, consensus.

428

429 ~~C. Discussion regarding replacement of one of the Town's ambulances -~~
 430 Withdrawn from the agenda.

431

432 **14. FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL:**

433

434 A. Councilmember Paritsky, Seat #5 – Congratulated Attorney Shepard for being
 435 awarded Executive of the Year by the Volusia League of Cities. She commended Mr. Shepard for
 436 his outstanding work as lead counsel in the Pacetta lawsuit noting that it transcends Ponce Inlet -
 437 setting case precedent for all jurisdictions. She reported that the County is formally researching
 438 the amount of growth and development throughout Volusia County to find a way to grow in a
 439 smarter and more responsible way that minimizes negative impacts to existing residents and has
 440 asked each municipality to participate.

441

442 B. Councilmember Perrone, Seat #4 – Thanked Mr. Bullard for serving on the BPAC
 443 with the TPO and noted that the position is now available; stated the new benches are very nice; a
 444 resident suggested putting up a temporary sign announcing the date/time of Council meetings;
 445 expressed concerns with County proposing to charge fees for off-site beach parking.

446

447 C. Vice-Mayor Hoss, Seat #3 – Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting,
 448 adding that there were many important issues on this agenda; stated her hopes to bring forth a
 449 resolution encouraging reduction and elimination of single-use plastics.

450

451 D. Councilmember Milano, Seat #2 – Referred to the Quality Cities magazine article
 452 regarding Home Rule and stressed the importance of protecting Home Rule and gave kudos to
 453 Councilmember Paritsky for her efforts; reported that First Step Shelter is scheduled to open
 454 around October 1st and is accepting donations; he wished everyone a happy & fireworks-free 4th
 455 of July.

456

457 E. Mayor Smith, Seat #1 – Had no report.

458

- 459 **15. FROM THE TOWN MANAGER** – Ms. Witt had no report.
- 460
- 461 **16. FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY** – Attorney Shepard had no report.
- 462
- 463 **17. ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:29 p.m.
- 464

465 Respectfully submitted by:

466
467
468
469

Jeaneen Witt, CMC, Town Manager/Town Clerk
Peg Hunt, Board Secretary